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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/696,399	10/25/2000	Michel Casabona	DE9-1999-0075US1	3668

26502 7590 11/19/2003

IBM CORPORATION
IPLAW IQ0A/40-3
1701 NORTH STREET
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EXAMINER

VU, TUAN A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2124

DATE MAILED: 11/19/2003

7

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the Applicant's response filed 9/19/2003.

As indicated in Applicant's response, claims 1-13 have been amended. Claims 1-16 are pending in the office action.

Response to Amendment

2. The amendment to the claims filed on 9/19/2003 does not comply with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121(c) because of the following reasons:

First, in all amended claims, deleted words should be enclosed within brackets or crossed off; and many sentences appear to have gone deleted without being crossed off or bracketed.

The following are, *inter alia*, only examples of these informalities:

claim 1, line 8, sentence 'the method being characterized by ...; and' does not show to what extent it is deleted;

claim 4, line 7, the 'comparing (210) said lists' does not explicitly appear to being deleted;

claim 7, lines 1-2 do not appear to have clear indication as to what part of the sentence is being deleted up to the underlined 'for maintaining software ...';

claim 12, line 7, the 'method according to one of the preceding ... computer device' does not show clear indication as to what extent it is being deleted.

Second, the underlined statements to indicate added limitations do not appear to be fully or distinctly underlined, e.g. claim 12, line 5.

Amendments to the claims filed after March 1, 2001 must comply with 37 CFR 1.121(c) which states:

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(c) Claims.

(1) Amendment by rewriting, directions to cancel or add: Amendments to a claim must be made by rewriting such claim with all changes (e.g., additions, deletions, modifications) included. The rewriting of a claim (with the same number) will be construed as directing the cancellation of the previous version of that claim. A claim may also be canceled by an instruction.

(i) A rewritten or newly added claim must be in clean form, that is, without markings to indicate the changes that have been made. A parenthetical expression should follow the claim number indicating the status of the claim as amended or newly added (e.g., "amended," "twice amended," or "new").

(ii) If a claim is amended by rewriting such claim with the same number, the amendment must be accompanied by another version of the rewritten claim, on one or more pages separate from the amendment, marked up to show all the changes relative to the previous version of that claim. A parenthetical expression should follow the claim number indicating the status of the claim, e.g., "amended," "twice amended," etc. The parenthetical expression "amended," "twice amended," etc. should be the same for both the clean version of the claim under paragraph (c)(1)(i) of this section and the marked up version under this paragraph. The changes may be shown by brackets (for deleted matter) or underlining (for added matter), or by any equivalent marking system. A marked up version does not have to be supplied for an added claim or a canceled claim as it is sufficient to state that a particular claim has been added, or canceled.

(2) A claim canceled by amendment (deleted in its entirety) may be reinstated only by a subsequent amendment presenting the claim as a new claim with a new claim number.

Since the reply filed on 09/19/2003 appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to submit an amendment in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121 in order to avoid abandonment. **EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).**

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan A Vu whose telephone number is (703)305-7207. The examiner can normally be reached on 8AM-4:30PM/Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kakali Chaki can be reached on (703)305-9662.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

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or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306 (for formal communications intended for entry)

or: (703) 746-8734 (for informal or draft communications, please label

“PROPOSED” or “DRAFT”)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington. VA. , 22202. 4th Floor(Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

VAT
November 7, 2003


KAKALI CHAKI
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100